

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Young Writers Conference at Southern Illinois University Carbondale is a two-day program designed to give high school and community college students the opportunity to explore their talents in writing poetry and prose.

During the workshop, students will participate in sessions on topics such as poetic forms, small-press publishing, and writing for new media. SIUC students, faculty, and YWC participants will also participate in readings from their own works.

## PROGRAM FACULTY

The program's director is Allison Joseph, a Professor of English in SIUC's School of Literature, Writing, and Digital Humanities. The author of eight books of poems, she travels frequently to read from her work at colleges, universities, and festivals. The assistant director is Teya Reid, who is a MFA candidate in creative writing at SIUC. Joseph and Reid will be assisted by SIUC MFA students, SIUC alumni, and visiting guest writers.



Southern Illinois University

EVENTS AND OUTREACH  
ANTHONY HALL MAIL - CODE 6705  
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
1265 LINCOLN DRIVE  
CARBONDALE, IL 62901

WRITE...BELIEVE...ACHIEVE

YOUNG WRITERS CONFERENCE  
JUNE 16-18, 2026

# 22nd ANNUAL

# YOUNG

# WRITERS'

# CONFERENCE



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

## JUNE 16-18, 2026

FOR HIGH SCHOOL Jr./Sr. and  
Jr. College STUDENTS (up to 21)

SPONSORED BY

SIUC MFA Program in Creative Writing  
School of Literature, Writing, and Digital Humanities  
College of Liberal Arts  
Crab Orchard Review

IN COOPERATION WITH

Events and Outreach

**SIUC** Southern Illinois  
CARBONDALE University

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: (Circle) M F

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Eve: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Circle Grade (as of Fall 2024) 11 12 Jr College

School Name \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ up to 21

Adult T-shirt Size:  Small  Medium  Large  X-LargePlease indicate the genre of your writing sample:  Poetry  Prose

Enclose a sample of recent writing (no more than three poems or 3-5 pages of prose—a story or essay)

*A medical release form is required for camp participation and must be received in our office the week before camps begins. Visit [conferenceservices.siu.edu](http://conferenceservices.siu.edu) to download the form.*

Please make checks payable to SIU Carbondale. If paying by credit card, enter information below:

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVC: \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Camp enrollment is limited to 30 participants. Registration will be on a first come, first serve basis.

### FEE: \$165.00

Fee includes all meals, instruction, materials, and T-shirt

## AWARDS

Participants who submit a 3-to-5-page writing sample of poetry or prose (fiction and nonfiction) will be considered for "Best of the Conference" Awards. Awards will be announced at a ceremony on the last day of the Conference. No additional application necessary for award consideration.

## CHECK-IN

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

WHEN: 9:30 am

WHERE: Faner Hall, Humanities Lounge,  
Second Floor

Camp begins each morning promptly at 10 am and concludes at 6 pm each evening. Parking permits will be available at registration for \$5 per day.

**Mail to:** Events and Outreach,  
1265 Lincoln Dr, SIU Carbondale, MC 6705,  
Carbondale, IL 62901.

Phone: 618-536-7751, Fax: 618-453-5680.

**Register online at [conferenceservices.siu.edu](http://conferenceservices.siu.edu)**

## ABOUT

### SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY'S CREATIVE WRITING PROGRAM

SIU Carbondale offers the B.A. in English with a Specialization in Creative Writing and the M.F.A. in Creative Writing. The Department of English publishes Crab Orchard Review, an award-winning national journal of creative writing and Grassroots, SIU Carbondale's undergraduate literary magazine.

## REFUND/CANCELLATION

Cancellation Policy: Cancellations before June 9 will be refunded, less \$15. No refunds after June 9, 2026.

## CONDUCT POLICY

You and your parent/guardian will be required to sign a Conduct Policy prior to attending the camp. Paperwork will be forwarded with your registration confirmation letter. Our recommendation is that all concerned review the policy together before signing, then return it to Conference and Scheduling Services.

## WRITING SAMPLES

Writing samples should be typed (no more than 3 poems or 3-5 five pages of a story or an essay). These writing samples will help our staff determine the "Best of the Conference" Awards.